# JOLLY LANE GREENHOUSE

## Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush

***Buddleia alternifolia 'Argentea'***

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Fountain Butterfly Bush, Weeping Butterfly Bush

**Description:**

A sizeable garden shrub with showy purple-blue flowers that attracts butterflies; blooms on old wood so only prune after flowering; a very graceful habit of growth, cascading silvery leaves draped with blooms

**Ornamental Features**

Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush features showy panicles of fragrant lavender flowers with blue overtones at the ends of the branches from early to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green foliage with silver undersides. The fuzzy narrow leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

**Landscape Attributes**

Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.



*Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*



*Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

**Planting & Growing**

Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Argentea Alternate Leaf Butterfly Bush makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.